



Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Declaration

Whereas, 1998 has been declared by the Utah Senate, the Utah House of Representatives and the Governor of the State of Utah as the Year of the Farmer; and

Whereas, less than two percent of the population is actively involved in food and fiber production, yet produce most of the nutritional and clothing needs for the other 98 percent of our society; and

Whereas, Utah agribusiness provides nearly 20 percent of all the jobs in the state; and

Whereas, Utah agrifood products and companies continue to attract new foreign buyers and thus increase Utah's employment and economic strength; and

Whereas, Utahns and the rest of America's consumers pay just 11 percent of their incomes for food, compared to 16 percent in France, 18 percent in Japan 32 percent in Mexico and 53 percent in India; and

Whereas, Utah's agriculture industry ranks in the top 10 states in the nation in the production of tart and sweet cherries, pears, mink pelts, sheep, trout, barley and spring wheat; and

Whereas, this first day of spring is set aside throughout the United States as Agriculture Week;

Now, Therefore, I, Michael O. Leavitt, governor of the State of Utah, do hereby declare March 15 through March 21, 1998 as

Utah Agriculture Week

in Utah, and urge all citizens to recognize the contributions Utah's farmers and ranchers make by producing the best, safest and lowest cost food in the world.



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